

Rev. A. Lowell

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BOSTON RECORDER.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1832.

Whole No. 851.

LITERARY.

For the Boston Recorder.

AMHERST COLLEGE.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES IF AMHERST COLLEGE GOES DOWN?

The period of revivals on which I shall now remark is that including the two closing years of the last century, and extending into the present, so as to make about ten years in all. The review of this period is attended with circumstances of special interest to my own feelings, having then recently entered the ministry myself, and being allowed to share in the labors of this blessed season, and to witness its scenes of wonder and mercy among my own people. Instead of relying, however, on my own recollections, I have carefully examined the very ample narratives of those revivals, written at the time, and occupying a considerable part of nine or ten volumes of the *Connecticut Evangelical Magazine*, besides other periodicals and documents of the day.

These narratives were written chiefly by *ministers*, most of whom I personally knew,—many of them my fathers in the sacred office, whom I regarded then, as I do now, with sincere respect and veneration. Many of them were among the most intelligent and able men of their time; and all of them were as competent as any other men to tell what they witnessed from day to day, among their own hearers and others around them.

These narratives, too, were written with leisure and deliberation, after the excitement connected with such scenes of thrilling interest had subsided. Generally they were written two or three years, in a few cases four years, after the revivals respectively were at their height, but rarely within the first year. Some importance will be attached to this fact, in the sequel. These papers differ in length, from two or three, to twenty or thirty, close octavo pages; prepared with evident marks of candor and care, with great simplicity, and with a uniformity of statement truly remarkable as to the main characteristics of the work which they record.

The congregations to which they specially relate are one hundred and seventeen in number; while some of them, after describing a revival in one place, incidentally mention a similar state of things in a whole section of country,—one says 55 or 60 adjacent towns. Great numbers of the places, thus mercifully visited, were never individually reported in the published narratives. No part of the country, in proportion to its extent, shared so largely in these times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord,” as Connecticut; but other parts of New England enjoyed precious showers of grace; and during the same period powerful revivals prevailed, more or less extensively, in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, the two Carolinas, and Georgia. In no single town, perhaps, was the work so signalized as in Northampton, near a century ago, in what has been called “the great awakening;” but in the general amount of sanctifying influence, it surpasses all other experience of the American churches, before or since, unless we are to expect the ever memorable experience of 1831, which we devoutly hope may stand on record, as ushering in an era of mercy to our Zion, hitherto without a parallel.

One circumstance in this connexion deserves a brief notice, as to past seasons of revival. I have often seen the remark, that no such seasons were enjoyed for about fifty years after the great revivals, in the time of Whitefield and the Tannents; but in examining the documents on which I am now to remark, I perceive, in a number of them, by way of retrospective glance at the history of the church to which they refer, distinctly mentioned, that the revivals of 1790 and 1795. Thus the Rev. Ammi H. Robbins of Norfolk, Conn., mentions a work of grace among that people in 1767, in which “the whole town were awed with the presence of the Lord.” And in 1783, he describes “a second glorious day of grace,” in which fifty were added to the church. Other accounts make similar statements, respecting Killingly and Lebanon, Conn., Lebanon, N. Y., Stockbridge, New Marlborough, and other towns, in Berkshire, Mass. The years designated are 1773, 1776, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1785, and 1788.

The almost entire cessation of revivals for twenty-five years, and their comparative infrequency for twenty-five more, after the powerful revivals of 1740, I have often heard aged ministers ascribe chiefly to two causes; first, the great disorders which became mingled in various forms of fanatical excitement with the genuine and glorious work of the Holy Spirit, and which produced a deadly reaction upon the churches; and secondly, the political asperities betwixt the Colonies and the Mother Country. * * * *

In a religious point of view. Amherst College was not established to raise up mere bookworms, who after graduation should become mere rediculus, but to fit young men to be actively useful in society. And most of the graduates from thence are obliged to put what knowledge they have gained into immediate requisition. Probably no college in the country furnishes so many instructors of youth, in proportion to its numbers, as this. Now it is true that as yet the literary influence of Amherst College is most among the common people, and most of its students would probably never have been properly educated had it not been founded, this class of the community in Massachusetts, and it constitutes, in great majority, will find if it sinks, that they were more indebted to its literary influence than they now suspect. They will find, too, that it is no small disadvantage to be deprived of a place where their sons can be educated, while their rich neighbors can enjoy the privileges of Harvard or Yale, and thus pave the way for introducing their sons into places of honor and profit. The great mass of the community, therefore, sought to feel that they have a peculiarly deep interest in sustaining Amherst College. If they wish to prevent an aristocracy of learning and wealth from trampling on their necks, let them make a vigorous effort to keep alive an institution founded for their express benefit.

E. P. MACKINTOSH, & Co., Boston.

SPRING GOODS.

We have received their Spring wares,

recently selected in New York, and have

assured of STAPLE AND FABRIC

the season's many wants, have been

to enter into our stores.

HENRY JONES, Prin-

ter, 4, 1822.

ANTI-SLAVERY.

21 Washington Street.

Large assortment of SPRING SHAWLS,

and various patterns, of the best

Red, French blue, Green, Creme,

etc. etc. also, silk, muslin, and

Persons' white, red, yellow, and

green, etc. etc. richly embroi-

dered, &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

Also, silk, blue, green, and

yellow, pink, &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

Cambridge, No. 40

ELIAS STONE BREWER,

Hats.

hand a good assortment of hats,

of the best quality, Men's, Boys',

Boys', Blue and Brown Cloth, &c.

New York Patterns, Circum-

stances, etc. etc. etc. etc. etc.

French and American Manufactures,

etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc.

etc. etc

NEW-YORK ANNIVERSARIES.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

(Abstract of the 7th Annual Report).

The report notices the removal by death Col. Richard Varick, a Vice President and Rev. Dr. Rice, Mr. Thomas Skelton, and Mr. Timothy Dwight Williams, members of the Board and Executive Committee.

Letters of the Publishing Committee.

Forty-six new publications have been stereotyped during the year, making the whole number of the society's publications **six hundred and fourteen**, in 7 different languages, exclusive of 4 in Burmese, 6 in Tamil, and 1 in Cherokee, which have been approved for publication at foreign stations. Among those printed by the society, are the Pilgrim's Progress, with engravings; Baxter's Call, with Chalmers' Preface; Family Hymns; Daily Food for Christians, and the Daily Christian Expositor. The Christian Almanac was published in twenty distinct editions, adapted to different parts of the country, 18 of which were printed at the Society's house. On the American Tract Magazine 5000 copies are published monthly.

	Amount printed.
No. of publications printed during the year	5,471,760
No. of pages printed	87,622,000
No. of pages printed since the formation of the Society, 231,811,000	
Amount circulated	4,927,069
No. of pages printed	87,622,000
No. of pages circulated since the formation of the Society, 241,761,000	
Gratuitous distributions	5,173,110
No. of pages gratuitously distributed during the year	87,430
Received, during the year ending May 1, for Tracts and Donations	21,474 75
Total amount received	861,015 07
Pad during the year, for paper	21,139 95
Printing, stereotyping, engraving, folding and binding	6,225 98
Expense for distributing portions of our own country, including expense for travelling agencies	22,561 61
Appropriations for foreign stations	6,836 86
All other expenses, as by items in Treasurer's report	986 67
Balance remaining in the Treasury	861,885 07

Branches and Auxiliaries.

The number of new Auxiliaries recognized during the year is 146, making the whole number now, immediately connected with the society, 997.

Visiting and Financial Secretary.

The committee, in view of the increasing operations of the society, have obtained the services of Rev. O. EASTMAN as Visiting and Financial Secretary, with particular reference to planning and directing the Society's agencies, promoting the activity of Auxiliaries, and obtaining funds.

The Claims of our own Country.

Whether we regard the value of the soul's of our own countrymen, or the influence that nation should exert in the conversion of the world, the duty is clear to do all we can to bring every individual of this community to embrace the salvation offered in the Gospel. And it is to be overlooked, that this society has great facilities for reaching quickly our entire destitute population. Not only are its 650 publications, in 7 different languages, stereo-type—posteriorities established in all the principal towns—and Auxiliaries formed; but its plan for supplying our whole country is matured and sufficiently tested by experience; and what is more, in the system of distribution now adopted, God is adding a double efficiency to this entire department of benevolent operations.

The plan adopted by the Society for extending this work, is to divide our whole inhabited territory into fields, each as large as a faithful agent, with all the Christian co-operation that can be summed up in its limits, can so occupy as to effect the entire conversion of the entire destitute population. Abundant facts are given in the report to show that at least thirty such agents are now needed in our country, twelve of whom are already in the field.

It must be apparent to all that this is a great work. It will require the labors of many men; the vigorous co-operation of the friends of Zion; and liberal contributions. But with the Saviour's command to publish the gospel to every creature sounding in our ears, can we refrain from it? Is there a benighted soul in all our 13,000,000, wandering in the mazes of sin and crowding his way down to death, whom we shall omit, and say, "We will leave that soul to perish?" The Saviour came down from Heaven and died to afford us the way of salvation; but we cannot convey it to him! It will require too much labor, it will cost too much money! Yet that end, both the committee and the society must meet in the presence of Christ, at the day of judgment.

Claims of Foreign and Pagan Lands.

Notwithstanding the limited state of the Society's funds, five months since, such has been the rapid increase in the currency in view of the recent claims of foreign, and especially pagan lands, that the committee have been enabled to remit the following sums for Tract distribution abroad, viz.: for Burmese \$1,000, China 500, Bombay 600, Ceylon 500, Sandwich Islands 500, Greece 300, other countries on the Mediterranean 600, for use of the U. Brethren 200, for France 400, Hamburg 200, St. Petersburg 300—Total \$5,000.

American missionary institutions have now laboring in foreign lands, not far from 80 ordained ministers of their church. They have 6 printing establishments and 13 presses at their command, if we include 2 presses now waiting for opportunity of conveyance. The languages of the most important pagan nations are already acquired; and the nations seen waiting for the tidings of salvation by Christ, on the pages of their Bibles, are now numbered in tens of thousands.

In France are 32,000,000 souls to whom opportunity of access by Tracts are now enjoyed, which, until recently, have been unknown in that country.

The hand of evangelical Christians in Hamburg are struggling under civil and ecclesiastical oppression, and lay strong claim to our sympathy and aid.

An American gentleman recently from St. Petersburg, Russia, says: "I have witnessed so much of the blessed effects of Tract distribution to even the remotest parts of the empire from that city, that I am exceedingly anxious that the present season should not pass by unimproved. It would require some time to tell you of all that is being done by the little band of faithful Christians there; of their liberal contributions and out to all the benevolent operations among themselves, but to tell of other and some very distant countries; of their enlightened and zealous Masonic cause, of their exertions in finding new ways of doing good to the world, and a blessing accompanies their labors. Forty-five have confessed religion within the past year. A pleasing revival of religion has been enjoyed in the seaman's church in Baltimore. The Charleston boarding house and register office have prospered. The committee sent the Rev. Gordon Winslow again to New Orleans, to supply the marines' church in that important emporium. They have pleasing evidence that his laborers have been both acceptable and useful in a high degree. By his exertions a seaman's friend society has been formed, and a boarding house opened under happy auspices. Mr. Winslow has also a register office in the building room, but excites much interest. The building for the school which good teacher Eastburn used to minister to the slaves, is in a deplorable state; and the committee hope that God is preparing the way for a successful effort to obtain funds for its repair and completion of that noble edifice, according to the original plan."

At Malta the American Board of Foreign Missions have 3 printing presses, and founts of type for printing in English, Italian, Greek, Greco-Turkish, Armenian, Armeno-Turkish, and Arabic.

"Greece," says one of the American Episcopal missionaries, "afford now more than ever an extensive field for the word of God and of Religious Tracts gratis." And he is constrained to believe, a very limited one for the sole of himself. At Samos, when I was there in Sept. last, with Mr. King, I never witnessed anything more astonishing than the number of persons who had obtained a tract. We distributed in a couple of hours a book to obtain a tract.

In consequence of an earnest application from Lourdes, the committee made a vigorous, but unsuccessful effort, but failed to obtain a preacher for the thousands of boatsmen who sat at that place. The object is still kept in view. Mr. Winslow has been requested to return from New Orleans, by the river route, and visit the principal places on the Mississippi and Ohio, to encourage and organize Bethel institutions.

On the Upper Lakes, the Western Seamen's Friend Society desirous to employ two or three preachers. Two were employed a part of the time last year, and excited a considerable interest among the sailors on Lake Erie. The committee of the Buffalo Bethel Union intend to employ a preacher immediately. At Rochester, a plan has been formed, by which one sermon will be preached every sabbath to the 15 lads followed us, and one brother that the rest jumped into the sea and swam to our Calicut holding on the side and begged us to give him at least one little book."

At the Sandwich Islands are two presses and upwards of 50,000 readers, about one-fourth part of the entire population. Preachers never since the invention of printing, was the press employed so extensively as it has been in these Islands, with so little expense, and so great a certainty that every page of its productions would be read with so much attention and profit.

At Bombay a printing press actively employed in behalf of the millions who speak the Maharatna.

In a letter just received from an American Missionary in Ceylon, he says, "There are even in Jaffna, vast numbers who can read and profit by the reading of suitable Tracts; and we, having several native helpers and a tolerable acquaintance with the language after a residence among the people of from twelve to fifteen years, are able to prepare Tracts and distribute them to advantage. For ourselves as individuals, we certainly have no claim—but 200,000 Heathen, Mahomedans, & Catholics in Ceylon, speaking the Tamil language among whom are many schools in which are hundreds if not thousands of children and youth able to read printed books intelligibly while a small portion of the adults are able and willing to do the same—and from eight to ten millions on the continent speaking the same language, of whom vast numbers can also read and teach to read, have claims on Christian benevolence; and as their voice cannot reach you, we plead for them, and trust we shall be heard."

In respect to Burma, the Rev. Dr. Bolles, Secretary of

The Rev. Joseph Brown, of Charlestown was employed for five months.

Several of the students in the Andover and Princeton Theological Seminaries have also performed temporary agencies during their vacations, and rendered important service to the society.

The General Agent of the society resigned his commission in December last. The committee, after due deliberation, unanimously appointed the Rev. Mr. Brown, of Charlestown, that office.

Foreign Sea Missions.

The Rev. Edwin Stevens expects to proceed to Canton early next month; Rev. Flavel S. Mines, to Marseilles in France; soon after, the Rev. John Diell, to Honolulu in the Sandwich Islands, in the ensuing fall.

Other stations have been earnestly recommended to the committee. The most prominent are Rio Janeiro, Smyrna, and St. Petersburg.

Publications.

The Sailor's Magazine continues its usual circulation. A

the Baptist General Convention, thus writes: "The Board are gratified with the interest taken by the Committee of the American Tract Society in the circulation of tracts in Burma. To maintain four presses in constant operation will require large sums. No where probably can tracts be distributed so great advantage, or with better prospects of success."

"No tracts have been published by us in Chinese, though most of our stations afford facilities for distributing tracts in that language. When the mission shall commence which we hope soon to establish in Siam, the opportunities will be greater for communicating directly with China, than now."

The Rev. Dr. Judson, writing from Rangoon to Mr. Bent, the missionary printer at Maulmain, thus cheerfully encourages him in his work. "Do not think that care and expense are to be spared in your work. I do not give to all who ask for them; and the most which are given are called for at my residence. From Rangoon they are dispersed all over the empire. Business brings men down to Rangoon on the various rivers which here enter the bay; and if a man sees another with a tract in his hand, he inquires where he obtained it; and away he goes to procure the eternal truth!"

China.

The population of the world is **800,000,000**, and that of China **266,000,000**, which is not far from the average estimate of geographers, then China embraces **one-third** of the population of the globe, and in this view presents a stronger claim on the prayers and efforts of Christians than any other country.

But the power of the press in China renders its claim on this society peculiarly urgent. The Chinese are a reasoning people, and they venerate their language as if it had been created and given them directly by their gods." A Chinaman, says Rev. Mr. Abel, "never refuses a book if he can read, and there is little doubt but he generally finds it out." A native unacquainted with letters, will go through his village to have the book read, rather than remain ignorant of it."

The Report gives an interesting account of the labors of Rev. Dr. Morrison and wife for China. Dr. Milne makes his appeal in the name of "Three Hundred Millions of People"; a considerable proportion of whom can read, and *all* of whom understand the same language." And Dr. Morrison bears the following important testimony: "It has long been my conviction, that tracts constitute the most available means of diffusing Christian knowledge, under present circumstances, in this great empire."

Of the 97 Tracts written by LEUNG-A-FA, a native Chinese convert, of which he has himself translated and published in China more than 7,000 copies. Dr. Morrison says, they are admirably adapted to explain the Christian system and thence to expose the vain superstitions by which the Chinese are deluded, and add: "The latter part of this design is executed in a manner that no European now living, with whom I am acquainted, could equal."

"From intercourse with persons belonging to Cochin-China," said Dr. Milne, "I have had an opportunity of writing myself, and of conversing with them, of the language of that country, of Tung-king and of Hainan; it is the same in all respects, (in form and idiom,) with that of China. This is pretty generally known, but I was not so well convinced of it before. It will open a wide course for our labors."

Tract distributor at some great festival in China, where men of different tongues thought that everyone were congregated, like the Pathians and Medes and Elamites, and dwellers in Mesopotamia"; on the day of Pentecost, might speak through his Chinese tract, to every one in the language in which he was born;" and though it would be nothing strange in their own eyes, it would be scarcely less mysterious to one acquainted only with European languages, and scarcely less efficacious in masking known to all the world the secret of the word of God. May it have a wide course for our labors!"

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Tract distributor at some great festival in China, where men of different tongues

MAY 16, 1832.

BOSTON RECORDER.

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100, 120, 150 and 200 destitute families, in a single year. This increase has been steady in the state of New York, in Kentuck. Other instances have occurred, where we have found four and five years since, houses to contain from four to nine persons without the Bible. Some auxiliaries have done re-investigation the coming year, and are general. Let it be remembered that whatever a family can live without is that whatever all other means of grace and fast sustains.

The society has now in its service eight agents in North Carolina, one in Ohio, one in Indiana, two in Mississippi, one in Missouri, and one in territory. The Board have recently received the other for the greater Western valley. The agents will be to attend the anniversary, and co-operate with local tempers.

Distributions.—The managers feel that the time they are called to enter on the work of distribution in our country are (or at least have) come to a very considerable extent. There are now nearly 800 auxiliary societies, which can command great resources. They are growing demands at home, and yet family surplus revenue to aid distribution in foreign countries. Just at this moment the treasury has got ready to employ in foreign distribution the bread of life from two of our allies, from Russia, from different parts of China and from the Sandwich Islands. The specious building was opened yesterday for public worship. It was filled three times. Rev. Mr. Finney preached up, and when finished, a large edition of the Lord's Supper in the afternoon. It has been ascertained that by putting in a few extra seats, 2000 persons will fitly accommodate all. The money is wanted the present moment, and when the dying heathen around the mission stations, to ask for the sacred mites, must be delayed until American Christians have time. With such wants as these are presented, the managers cannot but feel the responsibility is devolved on them, and that the prompt and urgent in their appeals for contribution

AMERICAN EDUCATION SOCIETY.

(Abstract of the 16th Annual Report.)

An event, which has occurred in the history

of this Society, was more unexpected, than was the death of a member, or an executive officer of a benevolent association.

"Liberator," which fit a man for that cause in a very eminent degree.

He had a noble energy, a form of looks,

at once commanding, and business like

and a deep sense of dependability.

He was engaged in the service of God,

for fifteen years, seven of which he was a student, which he delivered sermons, as a par-

ageant for different philanthropic purposes,

and four thousand times. He travelled for re-

ward at least 50,000 miles, to twice the

distance of the earth. Through the efforts of

other men, 200 individuals were sup-

ported in various charitable purposes.

The amount of funds available for

this connection with the Education Society,

do. 28. Olego.

do. 77 Academics.

do. under private instruction.

Young men in 113 institutions of learning. Hon-

and of the whole number, as it appears from its

statement, are in the first stage of their education

in fourteen institutions in the Valley of the

Alleghany.

The whole number of new applica-

nts received during the year, is 222, of whom

of various academies, 44 of colleges, and

several seminaries. This number is greatly ex-

ceeded by nearly 200, who were patronized during

ten years of the society's existence. At least

induced by him to study for the Christian

cause, and would not otherwise have

been led before he was thirty-eight years

old when he died.

In the past year.—Number assisted.—During

the past, there have been assisted from the funds

(including the Presbyterian Edca., Socie-

ty, and Acad. in Theological Seminaries).

do. 28. Olego.

do. 77 Academics.

do. under private instruction.

Results.—Since the establishment of the society

individuals have been aided. They may be distri-

buted as follows:

Missionaries, - - - - - 26

to preach the gospel, now in this country, 469

abroad, exclusive of licentiates, - - - - - 630

employed as teachers, - - - - - 70

employed as instructors, - - - - - 30

Total amount, is - - - - - 46

want of health, - - - - - 30

and persons, most of whom after trial were drop-

ped, - - - - - 50

entered other professions, for various reasons, 25

about whom we have no recent information, 65

individuals who have been licensed to preach the

have recently reported to the directors the follow-

ing list of these 92 persons is about 40 years of age,

when in the ministry from one to ten years.

The 92 have been connected with the society, 20 years.

They have numbered 26,865

of the conversion of about 20,000 persons.

in Bible classes 15,000 children and youth.

stated to about 40,000 persons. About 13,

individuals in their parishes are members of Temperance Societies.

About \$16,000 are contributed in these parishes

philanthropic purposes. They have aided 147

schools for the ministry.

Remarks.—The number of Protestant minis-

teries, in this country, is about 8,000, thus

\$8,000,000 of the population, on the assumption

that the charge of 1,000 souls, while 5,000

are fully sufficient, to be the parent and germ of other

ministries. We have a great spiritual inter-

est in the progress of the population of this country.

Who is to look after them?

There is no supernumerary force. If a break

in the ranks of ministers, the breach remains.

The fall of a minister is like the fall

of a palm-tree in Washington's army in 1776. It is a palpable

loss to the strength of the whole force. We have a

great dearth of effective, sanctified talent in

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